



California Department of Veterans Affairs

News Release

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SENATE APPROVES SB 630 TO SECURE FUNDING FOR STATE VETERANS HOME CONSTRUCTION

California is one step closer to construction of the State Veterans Homes in Redding and Fresno with passage of SB 630 (Aanestad) by the State Senate. Approved on a 36 to 1 vote, this legislation provides an additional \$30 million in Lease-Revenue Bond authority to complete the funding package of these two much needed Veterans Homes.

"We applaud the members of California's Senate for joining us in acting to better meet the needs of our aged and disabled veterans," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Tom Johnson. "Their 'aye' vote moves us one step closer to ensuring that our Northern and Central California veterans receive care much closer to where they live."

"I am pleased that my Senate colleagues joined me and overwhelmingly supported SB 630," said California State Sen. Sam Aanestad. "I will continue my efforts to secure the funding that will be necessary for the completion of the Redding and Fresno Veterans homes."

SB 630 also authorizes construction of these homes to take place prior to receiving a grant from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs' State Homes Grant Program (SHGP) so long as these homes remain on SHGP's priority 1 list for funding.

SB 630 now makes its way to the Assembly where it is expected to be heard in the Veterans Affairs Committee.

Additional information on SB 630:

- SB 630 is sponsored by the California Department of Veterans Affairs.
- SB 630 is necessary to provide the funding package for the Redding and Fresno veterans homes.
- This legislation must be enacted by August 15, 2007 to maximize and expedite federal funding for these homes.
- This measure enables California to avoid cost increases due to future inflation by using interim financing to construct the Redding and Fresno homes pending receipt of the federal funds. As the federal funds become available they will be used first to reimburse any interim financing obtained.

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